

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 17552 211128Z

14

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 INR-07 IGA-01 L-03 SP-02 CIAE-00

NSAE-00 AID-05 OMB-01 MC-02 EB-07 TRSE-00 NSC-05

SS-15 /060 W

----- 014046

R 211058Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0101

INFO CINCPAC

AMCONSUL UDORN

COMUSMACTHAI

SECDEF WASHDC

CSAF

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 17552

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TH

SUBJ: THAI AM EQUIPMENT

1. FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI RAISED THE QUESTION OF THAI AM EQUIPMENT AT UDORN WITH ME AUGUST 18, STATING THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE YESTERDAY AND THAT THE MINISTER SAID THAT THE RTAF NEEDED THIS FACILITY.

2. I REPLIED THAT WE HAVE BEEN HOLDING THIS EQUIPMENT FOR MANY WEEKS AND WERE FAR FROM CLEAR REGARDING THE USE TO WHICH THE RTG HOPED TO PUT IT. THERE HAD BEEN STATEMENTS MADE THAT THERE WAS A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE POSSIBILITY THAT SWISS AIR OR SOME OTHER CARRIER MIGHT HAVE ITS PLANES MAINTAINED IN THAILAND AND THE EQUIPMENT FORMERLY USED BY THAI-AM. THE THAI-AM EQUIPMENT HAD BEEN BROUGHT IN UNDER MAP AND COULD NOT BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR CIVILIAN OR COMMERCIAL USE. FURTHERMORE, IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE EQUIPMENT AND PARTS REQUIRED FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE RTAF AIRCRAFT HAD LONG AGO BEEN PROVIDED  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 17552 211128Z

UNDER MAP AND THAT MUCH OF THE THAI-AM EQUIPMENT DUPLICATED THAT

WHICH ALREADY WAS IN THE HANDS OF THE RTAF.

3. CHATCHAI STATED THAT THIS WAS A TECHNICAL PROBLEM WHICH SHOULD BE DISCUSSED WITH THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE. HE THEORIZED THAT PERHAPS THE RTAF NEEDED A REPAIR SHOP IN UDORN AS WELL AS ELSEWHERE IN THAILAND. I SAID I HOPED WE COULD GET THIS MATTER RESOLVED PROMPTLY AND COMMENTED THAT I SAW LITTLE HOPE OF PERSUADING WASHINGTON THAT THIS EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE TURNED OVER TO THE RTAF.

4. NOW THAT CHATCHAI HAS TOSSED THE BALL TO DEFENSE MINISTER PRAMARN, I PROPOSE TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION WITH HIM SOON. I WILL EXPLAIN TO PRAMARN THE LIMITS ON THE USE OF THE EQUIPMENT AND ATTEMPT TO HAVE HIM FOCUS ON WHETHER OR NOT THE THAI ARMED FORCES REALLY NEED IT. I WILL TELL HIM THAT DOD SCREENING IS GOING FORWARD, AND THAT WHEN THIS PROCESS HAS BEEN COMPLETED, THOSE MATERIALS THAT ARE SURPLUS TO U.S. NEEDS CAN BE OFFERED TO THE RTAF AS EXCESS DEFENSE ARTICLES WHILE THOSE FOR WHICH A U.S. REQUIREMENT EXISTS CAN BE OFFERED TO THE RTAF FOR FMS PURCHASE. I WILL POINT OUT TO HIM THAT THE U.S. WILL BE CEASING OPERATIONS AT THAI-AM UDORN SHORTLY AND THAT THE RTAF WILL HAVE TO MAKE RAPID DECISIONS ON WHAT THEY DO AND DO NOT NEED. MACTHAI IS IN INFORMAL TOUCH WITH THE RTAF TO DETERMINE WHAT ITEMS THEY NEED AT THAI-AM UDORN. I REALIZE THAT DOD HAS ISSUED DISPOSITION INSTRUCTIONS ON SOME ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT; HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL INTEREST IN THIS MATTER ON THE THAI SIDE, I HAVE REQUESTED THAT NO MATERIALS BE MOVED OUT PENDING RESOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM.

WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SURPLUS WEAPONS DISPOSAL, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BANGKO17552  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750289-0560  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750829/aaaaayqy.tel  
**Line Count:** 91  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION PM  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <24 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THAI AM EQUIPMENT  
**TAGS:** MASS, TH, US, (CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006